

## **Rankings & Headlines**

### **Utah #1**

#### **“The Best Managed State in the Nation”**

**-The Pew Center on the States**

#### **Reported in Governing Magazine: Measuring Performance**

The Center ranked the states based on how well they manage their budgets, staffs, infrastructure and information. States were graded on their recruitment and retention of qualified employees, their use of information and technology, management of budgets and purchasing systems, and planning for improvements to roads, bridges and other core infrastructure.

### **Beacon Hill Institute, State Competitiveness Report for 2007**

#### **“MOST COMPETITIVE STATE FOR BUSINESS”**

**-Beacon Hill Institute**

Names Utah Number 1 as the most competitive state for business in the nation. Highly ranked in major sectors such as Government and Fiscal Policy, Security, Human Resources and Technology.

### **Utah #1**

#### **“MOST DYNAMIC ECONOMY”**

**-Kauffman 2007 State New Economy Index**

- #2 “Inventor Patents”
- #2 “E-Gov’t”
- #3 “Online Population”
- #4 “Fastest Growing Firms”

### **Utah #2**

#### **“BEST STATE FOR BUSINESS”**

**-Forbes Magazine**

### **Utah #3**

#### **“AMERICA’S TOP TEN STATES FOR BUSINESS”**

**-CNBC**

### **Utah #5**

#### **“TOP TEN PRO-BUSINESS STATES”**

**-Keeping Jobs in America:**

**Pollina Corporate Top 10 Pro-Business States**

### **Salt Lake City Named the Best City for Jobs<sup>1</sup>**

*Forbes.com* ranked Salt Lake City, Utah as the #1 city for jobs based on unemployment rate, job growth, income growth, median household income and cost of living during 2007. Salt Lake City has received this ranking for the last two consecutive years. The ranking measured the largest 100 U.S. metropolitan areas and obtained data from Moody’s Economy.com.

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<sup>1</sup> Source: Forbes.com, “Best Cities for Jobs in 2008”

#### Best Cities for Jobs

Rank	State
1	Salt Lake City, UT
2	Wichita, KS
3	Austin, TX
4	Atlanta, GA
5	Ft. Worth, TX

#### Utah Ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Nation as an Economic Development Hot Spot<sup>2</sup>

*Expansion Management* and *National Policy Research Council* ranked the state of Utah and several counties in the state as top economic development hot spots in the country based on the number of businesses that have been in business for four or more years and overall employment growth over the four years. **Provo-Orem** ranked 1<sup>st</sup> among the small metro areas and **Salt Lake City** ranked 5<sup>th</sup> among the largest metro areas. **Salt Lake County** ranked 6<sup>th</sup> among the largest counties in the nation and **Utah County** ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> among the smallest counties in the nation. Overall, the state of **Utah** ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in the nation.

#### 4 Utah Cities Ranked Among Top 5 Best Metros for Women Entrepreneurs<sup>3</sup>

AllBusiness.com recently conducted a national survey to determine what women value most when starting a business. The cities that top the list are metros offering the best mix of criteria. **Provo-Orem, St. George, Ogden-Clearfield** and **Logan** all ranked in the top five overall **best metros for women entrepreneurs**. **Salt Lake City** ranked 5<sup>th</sup> for the top large metros. Businesswomen and men were polled with a survey including a list of attributes each respondent was asked to list in order of importance.

#### Top Best Metros for Women Entrepreneurs

Rank	Geographic Location
1	Raleigh-Cary, NC
2	Provo-Orem, UT
3	St. George, UT
4	Ogden – Clearfield, UT
5	Logan, UT

#### Salt Lake City named as an "Urban Innovator" by Fast Company magazine.

*Fast Company* magazine named Salt Lake City an "Urban Innovator" in 2007. *Fast Company* magazine states that Salt Lake City is radically redesigning its downtown with more green space and the return of City Creek, which now flows under the streets. The goal: a more open, human feel that attracts newcomers--among them traffic-weary Californians--to the city center.

#### Salt Lake City / Ogden Area Is Nation's Most Livable And Affordable

In 2007, the Salt Lake City/Ogden metro area finds itself ranked #1 in the top ten most livable metro areas in the United States by a recent Current Market Conditions survey conducted by HouseHunt, Inc., a consumer-oriented Internet firm.

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<sup>2</sup> Source: Expansion Management, "ED Hot Spots", October 2007 edition

<sup>3</sup> Source: AllBusiness.com, October 2006 results

### **3 Utah Hospitals Ranked Among America's Best Hospitals of 2007**<sup>4</sup>

Three Utah hospitals received high rankings for their various specialty areas. **Primary Children's Medical Center** ranked **18<sup>th</sup>** in the nation for its pediatrics specialty. **LDS Hospital** ranked **23<sup>rd</sup>** in the nation for its urology specialty. And, **University of Utah Hospitals** ranked **18<sup>th</sup>** for its gynecology specialty. Hospitals have to perform a minimum number of specialty area procedures and are ranked by their reputation, mortality rate and nurse-to-patient ratio.

### **Salt Lake City International Airport 1<sup>st</sup> in the Nation for On-Time Arrivals**<sup>5</sup>

According to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics, the **Salt Lake City International Airport** ranks **1<sup>st</sup>** for on-time arrivals compared to all other major airports in the U.S. During 2007, 81.54% of all flights arriving at the airport landed on time, placing Salt Lake City International Airport in the lead for on-time arrivals. Salt Lake City International Airport also ranks **1<sup>st</sup>** for **on-time departures** with 84.94% of all flights departing the airport on time. The airport served 21.5 million passengers during 2006, making it the 22<sup>nd</sup> busiest in the country and 54<sup>th</sup> busiest in the world.

### **Utah Ranked 1<sup>st</sup> and Salt Lake City Ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> for Volunteerism**<sup>6</sup>

Utah has the **highest volunteering rate in the nation every year**, ranging between 46.2% and 49.7%. The rate of volunteering for both seniors and young adults from 2003 to 2005 in Utah was higher than the 3-year rate for the West as a whole and the entire nation. **Utah** also **rank 1<sup>st</sup>** in the nation for the **number of annual mean hours volunteering at 81.9 hours**. **Salt Lake City** has the nation's **2<sup>nd</sup> highest rate of volunteers**, with a **38.4% volunteer rate**, among metro areas according to data gathered from 2004 to 2006 by the Current Population Survey.

Sports	Salt Lake County is home to numerous professional, minor league and college teams including the Utah Jazz of the NBA, Real Salt Lake of Major League Soccer, the Utah Blaze of the Arena Football League, The University of Utah Utes of NCAA Division I basketball and football, and the Salt Lake Stingers, the AAA minor league affiliate of the Anaheim Angels.
Golf	Salt Lake County is home to 25 first-class golf courses with a total of 423 holes and over 145,000 yards.
Skiing/Boarding	Eleven resorts are located within 100 miles of the state capital, featuring over 24,000 skiable acres and almost 800 runs.
Museums	Salt Lake County is home to a dozen museums, with subjects ranging from folk art to fine art to natural history.
Hiking/Biking	Salt Lake County and the surrounding area are home to miles of scenic hiking and biking trails for people of every age and fitness level. Highlighted among the most beautiful is Mount Olympus. Literally at the edge of Salt Lake City, this hike is not for the novice, reaching an elevation of over 9,000 feet.
Events	As the center of the state's economic and cultural activity, Salt Lake County features events throughout the year for all people. Some of the most popular are the 24 <sup>th</sup> of July and the annual Greek and Hispanic festivals.

Source: Salt Lake County

<sup>4</sup> Source: U.S. News & World Report, "America's Best Hospitals", 2007 rankings

<sup>5</sup> Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, Airline On-Time Tables, November 2007

<sup>6</sup> Source: Corporation for National & Community Service, "Volunteering in America: 2007 City Trends and Rankings"